[28th February 1956

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : That is quite correct. But the Tribunal has not yet given its award about minimum wages. It has only given an interim award.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Are the Government aware that recently, i.e., on the 20th instant there were some arrests effected in this estate and that the arrested persons were taken into police custody, because the workers of this estate demanded the implementation of giving the minimum wages fixed by the Tribunal? Will the Government be pleased to make an enquiry into this matter and see that police harassment of workers is stopped?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I have no information. But if the hon. Member wants an enquiry in the matter I would suggest to him to put a separate question.

SRI R. KRISHNAN : May I know the names of the estates who are parties to the dispute?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : It is a long list and I do not have it with me.

Mental Hospital, Kozhikode

9-10 a.m. * 3085[a] *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether all the methods of treatment adopted in the Mental Hospital at Madras are followed in the Mental Hospital at Kozhikode and if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(*b*) whether septic tanks are provided in the Kozhikode hospital?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : (*a*) No, Sir. Electric conclusive therapy is not given for want of electricity and psychological treatment for want of trained doctors.

(*b*) No, Sir.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : May I know from the Hon. Minister the various methods of treatment adopted in the Mental Hospital, Madras, and the Mental Hospital at Kozhikode?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : In the Kozhikode Mental Hospital electric convulsive therapy is not given for want of electricity and psychological treatment is not being given for want of persons trained in psychological treatment. (Laughter.)

SRI S. PANCHAKSHARAM : Sir, are mental cases in Malabar of a different category from those in Madras? (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : The diseases are of a similar type everywhere, Sir.

---

[a] Postponed from the list for 30th January 1956.

28th February 1956]

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Sir, for treatment of lunacy, it is essential that a psychologist who knows the treatment in that sphere should inevitably be in the hospital. May I know from the Hon. Minister why electric therapy and psychological treatment are denied to the in-patients of the Mental Hospital at Kozhikode?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : I would request the hon. Member not to use the word 'lunacy'; to-day we say 'mental disease' and not insanity or lunacy. A provision of Rs. 50,000 has been made for electrification of the Kozhikode Mental Hospital. We will be able to start electric convulsive therapy there as soon as electrification is completed. As regards psychological treatment, two of our medical men have been deputed to the Bangalore Mental Hospital for training and getting the Diploma in Psychological medicine.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Sir, on a point of personal explanation. I have used the word 'lunacy' consciously; for, if the Hon. Minister has accepted the contention that this is mental disorder or mental defect, my suggestion was that the Government would have appointed a Psychologist to give treatment to those in-patients psychologically also.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : Most diseases to-day are psychosomatic (laughter) and all of us or many of us may be mentally affected and it is only a question of degrees or shades of difference.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : May I know from the Hon. Minister, as one of the treatments that was used before was the use of 'straight cheeks' in cases of mental defects, whether it is adopted even to-day so that the patients might be made straight not only in body, but straight in their minds?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : Much more humane methods are used to-day. I would request the hon. Member to visit the Mental Hospital. (Laughter.)

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI : I am certainly grateful to the Hon. Minister for his remarks that everyone of us is mentally affected and that it is only a question of degree. May I know what are the various degrees of the affection of mental disease among his colleagues?

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Sir, is the lunacy in Kozhikode so superior as not to need electric current treatment, when such current is available only half-a-mile away from the Kozhikode Hospital?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : I have said that a provision for electrification of the hospital has been made in the budget. The hon. Member may see Part II Schemes in the Budget Memorandum.